MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Did the Government come to the conclusion that better irrigational facilities should be provided for the Punja?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: Facilities to the extent possible have already been provided.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Have the Government decided to increase further irrigational facilities?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: Not at the present time.

Alleppey-Shertalai Canal.

282 * **MR. XAVIER VINCENT** (*Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertalai*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the length of the portion of the Alleppey-Shertalai Canal that has been constructed;

(*b*) the length of the portion that still remains to be constructed;

(*c*) when the canal work was started;

(*d*) the amount that has been spent on that work up-to-date; and

(*e*) why its completion is being delayed?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) 5 miles, 3083 feet.

(*b*) 7 miles, 4517 feet.

(*c*) 1090 M. E.

(*d*) Rs. 6,51,299.

(*e*) It has been decided not to proceed with this work.

Petitions from the ryots of Kulapattom Ela.

283 * **MR. K. A. MATHEW:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received petitions from the ryots of Kulapattom Ela, Keezhattingal pakuthi, Chirayinkil taluk that the bund and sluice destroyed during the floods in 1108 and subsequent years be restored;

(*b*) what action if any has been taken on these petitions; and

(*c*) whether they are aware that the productivity of about 75 acres of paddy land continues to be materially affected by the delay in the execution of this work?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) An estimate has been prepared and is under scrutiny.

(*c*) Yes.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: May I know when this estimate was prepared?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: The petition was received in August 1943, *i. e.*, towards the early part of 1119, and the estimate has already been prepared in the current year.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: The damage occurred in 1108 and it came to the notice of Government only in 1119. Is that what I am to understand?

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